EXCISE.

(Nos. 172 to 178.)

SUBJECT No. 172.

An Excise Conference.

Messrs. B. Alasingrachar and Dod dapayanna, Hassan taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The working of the Excise Regulation, the Excise Rules, and the License conditions causes a good deal of hardship and loss to the ryots. With a view to ascertain and discuss the existing difficulties and to suggest remedies for the same, the Government may be pleased to authorize the Excise Commissioner to invite the District Excise Officers and experienced contractors to a Conference.

Reply of Government.—Noted.

SUBJECT No. 173.

Excise sales.

Mr. S. R. Balakrishna Rao Shimoga municipality.

Summary of discussion.—The average yield for ten years of each excise shop may be taken as indicative of its rental and the shop given to an approved contractor at an upset price. The increase of revenue is in many cases due to unwholesome competition amongst the bidders.

Reply of Government.—This is not possible.

SUBJECT No. 174.

Payment of excise *khist*.

Messrs. B. Alasingrachar and Dod dapayanna, Hassan taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Formerly excise contractors were allowed to pay their monthly *khist* within the 10th of the subsequent month. This rule is now changed and the monthly *khists* are now required to be paid within the 20th of the same month, failing which, interest at half per cent per mensem is levied. This is no doubt a source of income to Government but is a source of great hardship to the contractors. It is prayed that the old rules be revived.

Reply of Government.—Noted.

SUBJECT No. 175.

Sub-letting toddy shops.

Mr. Chennappa, Channagiri taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Contractors, who have obtained the right of vending toddy in shops, may be allowed to sub-let them to others.

Reply of Government.—The existing provision is enough.

SUBJECT No. 176.

Bagani trees on *hiduvali* lands.

(1) Mr. T. Narasinga Rao, North Mysore Native Planters' Association.

(2) Mr. Kalle Gowda, Mudgere taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) Land-holders in malnad may be allowed to tap bagani trees on their lands for their *bona fide* use. This will not involve any loss of revenue to the State.

(2) *Per contra.*—If the suggestion made last year to give each *hiduvalidar* the right to tap ten *bagani* trees on *hiduvali* lands is favourably considered it is likely to encourage drinking which is one of the causes for the deci-